

tests and methods. One must mention in this connection the section on the taking of pulse tracings; and the chapter on the blood, the plates of which cannot be excelled in any work on general diagnosis. The section devoted to the examination of sputum and feces, which in most works stand practically unaltered year after year, are refreshing in their practical applicability and in the evident fact that the authors have worked out the examinations of the various conditions, instead of merely copying from or referring to other older works on the subject.

The general diagnosis, the consideration of pulmonary, cardiac, and thoracic conditions are excellent and helped by numerous illustrations and carefully printed and anatomically correct plates. The description and history of the numerous adventitious sounds of the heart and lungs are remarkably full and good for a small work.

The work ends with a particularly readable chapter on diagnosis of diseases of the nervous system (with several excellent plates and a good description of electrodiagnosis), the examination of exudates and transudates, and clinical bacteriology. The latter are rather brief; one misses consideration of cytodiagnosis, and mention at least of paracolon and paratyphoid disease. A simple clinical discussion of disorders of the intestine, such as monads, cercomonads, etc., is unfortunately omitted from the book.

As a student's hand-book we have no hesitation in recommending it to our classes, since the accuracy of description of tests, reagents, stains, etc., will save much misunderstanding.

N. B. G.

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MATERIA MEDICA AND PHARMACY. By REYNOLD WEBB WILCOX, M.A., M.D., LL.D., Professor of Medicine in the New York Post-graduate Medical School. Sixth edition, based on the fifth edition of White and Wilcox's *Materia Medica and Therapeutics*. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1905.

THIS work has been written as a companion volume to *Pharmacology and Therapeutics* by the same author. Owing to the extensive changes which have been required to bring the sixth edition into harmony with the last volume of the United States Pharmacopœia the entire work has been recast, and has been divided, as is stated above, into two volumes. In the part under review, the subjects are considered from a pharmaceutical standpoint and include the various kinds of preparations, their dosage, and the art of prescribing; then follows a description of the remedies in detail. Therapeutic agents are divided into two main parts, under the headings of Inorganic and Organic Materia Medica.

and they are grouped according to the class and chemical division, or natural order, to which they belong.

The work embodies in a most excellent manner all the essential facts upon the various subjects in the light of the most recent investigations. The descriptions given, which are terse and to the point, are made readily accessible by means of a very complete index. A valuable feature of the book is the description of numerous proprietary remedies, together with their proper chemical names and methods of manufacture. The book can be cordially endorsed as a most useful work of reference which will improve on acquaintance.

G. W. N.

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THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE EYE. By DR. VICTOR HANKE, First Assistant in the University Eye Clinic of Hofrath Professor E. Fuchs, in Vienna. Translated by J. HERBERT PARSONS, B.S., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon, University College Hospital, and GEORGE COATS, M.D., F.R.C.S., Chief Clinical Assistant, Royal London (Moorfields) Ophthalmic Hospital. Chicago: W. T. Keener & Co. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1905.

THIS epitome upon the treatment of diseases of the eye and something more—for it also contains a short description of the symptoms, diagnosis, etc., of most of the affections considered—takes up the diseases of the different structures themselves in alphabetical order. It is difficult to conceive how such a task could be better accomplished than it has been done in this little book by its German author and English translators.

At the same time excellent as is the compend it well illustrates the limitations of all attempts to teach a specialty by such means. The general practitioner, for whom the author primarily intends this work, will undoubtedly gain considerable information from it about the subjects of which it treats, but it is very doubtful whether the knowledge so acquired will be of much use to him or his patients in the treatment of the diseases of the eye. Many of the subjects are so special that they cannot be taught from books alone—much less from one which contains no illustrations and in which the descriptions must be as brief as possible. The translators' suggestion that "the book provides a *resume* of the methods adopted in Fuchs' clinic, in Vienna, and will, therefore, be of interest to ophthalmic surgeons also" is very much to the point. This class will no doubt read it with lively interest. If such compends are to be published, however, the present one is a type of what they should be.

T. B. S.